June 22 – 28, 2023 NEWS YOU CAN USE, NEWS YOU CAN TRUST 75¢

THE EAGLE

A PUBLICATION OF ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS OF MICHIGAN

THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE • THE CANTON EAGLE • THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR • THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE • THE ROMULUS ROMAN • THE WAYNE EAGLE • THE WESTLAND EAGLE

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THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE
Vol. 138, No. 25

Members of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees approved the purchase of new tasers for the police department, using drug forfeiture funds.

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THE CANTON EAGLE
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For more than 1,200 high school seniors at Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, graduation was a shining moment and the culmination of hard work.

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THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR
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A new bill making the rounds in Lansing aims to strengthen the state's ethnic intimidation law.

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THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
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Unity Skatepark in Northville Township is officially rolling following a groundbreaking ceremony for the10,000-square-foot amenity last week.

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THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE
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Among the graduates at Plymouth Canton this year were 85 seniors from Starkweather Academy, the alternative high school in the district.

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THE ROMULUS ROMAN
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Evidence from a police body camera convinced a Wayne County jury to award a Romulus man $9.3 million as compensation for violations of his rights.

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THE WAYNE EAGLE
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Members of the Michigan Rocky Horror Preservation Society based in Wayne have been invited to perform at two of the oldest, largest and most iconic theaters in the state.

See page 5.

THE WESTLAND EAGLE
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Blues, Brews & Barbecue will return Friday, Aug. 4 and Saturday, Aug. 5 with live music, a 200 drone light show, fireworks, top BBQ pitmasters and ice-cold draft brews.

See page 5.

Increased speed enforcement now under way

Motorists throughout the area are advised to slow down or face serious fines this week as Michigan State Police join local law enforcement agencies in an increased speeding enforcement effort this week.

Speeding accounts for one-fourth of all traffic fatalities nationally, according to law enforcement statistics. Since the pandemic began more than three years ago, police agencies throughout Michigan continue to report an alarming rise in speeding and fatal crashes, according to information provided by the Michigan State Police.

This trend prompted the planned speed enforcement this week.

In 2021, there were 237 speed-related fatalities on Michigan roads, an increase of 18.5 percent over 2020, when 200 people died. Nationally in 2020, 11,258 fatalities involved crashes in which one or more drivers were speeding, an 18 percent increase over the 9,478 fatalities in 2019.

> *"These vital speed-enforcement periods help lessen the impact of those dangerous, impatient drivers.*

Katie Bower, director of the Michigan Office of Highway Safety Planning, said the goal of increased enforcement is to change these risky driving behaviors and save lives.

"Speeding continues to be a critical issue in Michigan that leads to many needless crashes, serious injuries and fatalities on our roadways," Bower said. "We are in the busy, warm-weather travel season with many families driving to their favorite destinations to enjoy the summer break. Unfortunately, there will be some drivers on the road who put everyone at risk by speeding and driving recklessly, making crashes more likely.

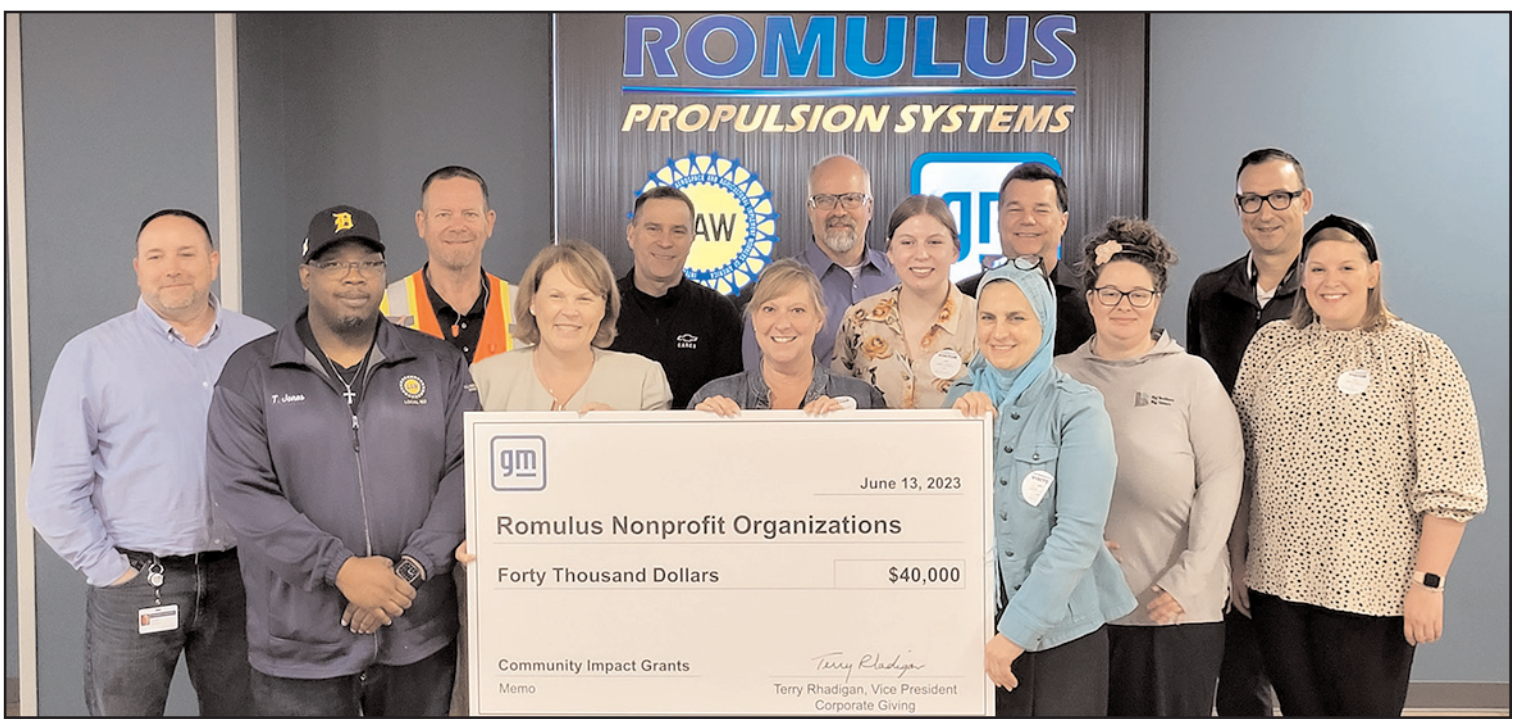
These vital speed-enforcement periods help lessen the impact of those dangerous, impatient drivers."

In Michigan, the number of traffic crashes rose from 245,432 in 2020 to 282,640 in 2021, an increase of 15 percent. There was also a rise in fatalities (1,131 in 2021 compared to 1,083 in 2020).

Also in Michigan, according to speed-involved data from the University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute, in 2021:13.3 percent of unrestrained drivers involved in crashes were speeding; 10.2 percent of drivers in the 15- to 20-year-old age group involved in crashes were speeding. This is higher than the overall speeding-driver rate of 5.2 percent in 2021 and there were 24,555 speed-related crashes, which is a 10.3 percent increase from the 22,260 speed-related crashes in 2020.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, local roads are more dangerous than highways for speeders. In 2020, 87 percent of all speeding-related traffic fatalities occurred on non-interstate roadways.

Recent insurance industry studies show that approximately 112,000 speeding tickets are issued each day, or about 41 million per year.



Workers at the General Motors plant in Romulus recently celebrated their donation of $40,000 to local non-profit groups in the community. Since 2019, plant employees have donated $163,000 to the Romulus region through the Community Impact Grants program.

Good neighbors

GM Romulus employees donate $40,000 to local non-profit groups

Workers at the Romulus General Motors plant recently donated $40,000 to four local nonprofit groups.

The donation was part of the recently completed General Motors national grant distribution of the 2023 Community Impact Grants (CIG) Program. Grants of $3 million were awarded to 157 nonprofits across the county, a spokesman noted.

"The generosity of GM and our workforce in this community inspires me every day," said Rob Morris, plant director at GM Romulus Propulsion Systems. "GM has been in this community for more than 47 years and we see the positive impact these local organizations can have when they have the resources to do so. Whether it's an investment of time or money, we are committed to serving and growing with the greater Romulus community and all of the communities in which GM employees live and work."

The 2023 Romulus-area grant recipients include:

- Ozone House Youth and Family Services - Ozone House is a 24-hour crisis center for young people experiencing homelessness and at risk of serious crises. Grant funds will support the Ozone House WorkZone youth employment program, which supports young people as they build work skills and become successfully employed in our community.
- Starfish Family Services - grant funds will be used to support the Family Employment Emergency program, which provides assistance to the parents and guardians of early childhood education students. Funds are used to address barriers to employment for parents and caregivers and provide assistance while clients are job-seeking.
- Big Brothers / Big Sisters of Metropolitan Detroit - grant funds will be used to recruit, screen, train and support matches in the School/Site Based programs.
- EMU STEM - grant funds will support Eastern Michigan University Digital Divas and Dudes program to fund free STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) programs for middle and high school students from the Metro Detroit area. Programs take place on a college campus and give students hands-on experiences with STEM and help make students aware of their career options and promote highly technical and high-paying careers for the next generation workforce.

Since 2019, GM has granted more than $13 million to nonprofits in its facility communities, and $163,000 to the Romulus region through the Community Impact Grants program.

Canton celebrates opening of accessible playground

There was a special celebration during the annual Canton Liberty Fest this year as officials and residents gathered for the ribbon-cutting of the newly installed universally ADA-accessible playground equipment, soft-fall surfaces, and concrete pathway around the Heritage Park North Playground.

The playground improvements were funded through the Community Block Grant program. Additional services were provided by MCSA Group for landscape architectural designs and DMC Group Consultants, Inc. for construction at the park.

Recently completed improvements at the playground include the installation of universally ADA-accessible play equipment including: a four-person see-saw; swings featuring adaptive seats enabling caregivers and children to swing together; activity panel featuring a buzzer reaction game; an accessible picnic table as well as soft-fall, rubber fall surfacing.

This project was funded through a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), which was obtained from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to fund federally required facility park improvements to remove playground barriers. These grant dollars were applied to make enhancements to the Heritage Park playground area by installing equipment that meets ADA requirements and invites spontaneous play from younger park visitors of all abilities to take advantage of these inviting outdoor features, officials said.

Additional services were provided by MCSA Group for landscape architectural designs and DMC Group Consultants, Inc. for construction at the park.

Sumpter

Township trustees OK purchase of police tasers

During a meeting last month, members of the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees approved the purchase of new tasers for the police department, using drug forfeiture funding.

Director of Public Safety/Police Chief Eric Luke presented the proposal to purchase the non-lethal devices at a cost of $8,052 to the trustees. He reminded the board members that he had presented a five-year plan for the police department, including equipment, during the Nov. 16, 2020 meeting and the replacement of the tasers was part of that plan. He told the board members "at that point I gave it a another 1-to-2-year lifespan left for the tasers which have about 7 years on them. So far our plan is to put the six we purchase into service right away and to keep the others for backup."

Luke said the back up devices could be used if the department added officers or in other situations. "We try to keep them running as long as possible," he told the board members. He explained that the tasers are tested at the beginning of each shift so officers would know immediately if one of the devices was not working properly.

> *"It's one of those options, along with three or four others that we try to use.*

He explained that the tasers are one of the things officers value as a less lethal way to mediate a volatile situation. "It's one of those options, along with three or four others that we try to use," Luke said. He assured the board members the purchase would be paid from forfeiture funds the township receives.

Trustee Peggy Morgan asked what would happen to the older devices when the new ones arrive. Luke reiterated that the older units would be kept and used for backup "just in case."

Luke added that with any electronic device the effective performance is about 7 years and that to date the department has had no issues with the current tasers. He said the new devices would be the same model the department has now and there would not be any retraining costs and no costs for any accessories.

In the absence of Supervisor Tim Bowman and Trustee Don LaPorte, the purchase was approved by unanimous vote.

Permanent part-time position sought for DPW department

Sumpter Township Director of Public Works John Danci proposed a permanent part-time employee for the department during the recent meeting of the township board of trustees.

Danci explained that the board members have repeatedly renewed the 90-day employment of a part time employee and that it would be more efficient to make the three-day, 22-hour a week position permanent. He said the current workload would justify the hours of the employee.

"We're at the point where a permanent part-time DPW water and sewer position will be beneficial to the township," he said. "Looking over the costs, and what other work this would be able to get done, having a fifth member of the team here at least three days a week is needed," he said. Danci said that with one member of the department off, "having a team of four that I can send out in pairs to do specific tasks is definitely going to be a cost-effective measure."

He said the board could continue to renew the part-time position as they have been doing every 90 days or make the position permanent. "It'll be better if we have a permanent part-time position so that when needed they may be able to fill a full-time vacancy." He said that four members of the department are close to retirement in 3 to 5 years and a part-time employee in place would be able to fill that position and "take a bit of ownership in some of these jobs."

Danci said the department had completed a great deal cost analysis and the workload of the department and each season. "It will benefit the department to have a specific position dedicated to some of those tasks," he said.

Danci said he was presenting the request to the trustees in advance of placing it on a meeting agenda for approval to allow time for discussion and provide trustees the opportunity for any input or questions they might have regarding the proposal.

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS – PUBLIC HEARING
July 19, 2023– 7:00 PM

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) will hold a public hearing at the Northville Township Municipal Office Building, located at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville MI. The ZBA will consider a variance request to Chapter 170, Zoning Ordinance as follows:

• 45513 Pebble Beach Ct. - Article 18.1 - Schedule of Regulations (Rear Yard Setback)

The public is invited to attend this public hearing and express their comments or ask questions. Plans are available for viewing at the Township between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. Written comments will be received by the ZBA at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, MI 48168 no later than 12:00 PM on the day of the above meeting.

Paul Slatin, Chair
Zoning Board of Appeals

Publish: June 22, 2023

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Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, April 25, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bowman at 6:40 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Patterson, Trustees: LaPorte, Oddy, and Rush. Excused: Trustee Morgan. Also showing present: Township Manager Burdick, Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Armatis, Finance Director Holtz, Public Safety Director/Police Chief Luke, Fire Chief Brown, Water Superintendent Danci and 6 attendees.

3. Agenda: Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to approve the Agenda with the following changes:

Remove Item A from unfinished business.
Add Item C. Consider approval of the deputy treasurer and deputy clerk receiving pay increases to coincide with the AFSCME employees retroactively.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment: One (1) attendee spoke.

5. Minutes: Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of April 11, 2023. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

6. Warrants: Motion by Rush, supported by LaPorte to approve warrants totaling $357,444.45. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

7, 8,11. Motion by Bowman, supported by Rush to receive and file reports. Roll call vote: Yes: Allinfavor. Nay: None. Motioncarried.

9. Treasurer's report. Patterson gave a brief update on new report that includes investment status. Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to approve. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

10. Planning and zoning report. Oddy reminded everyone that planning is still discussing solar farms, ponds, and business licensing enforcement. Motion by Rush, supported by Patterson to approve. Roll call vote: Yes: All infavor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

12. Board Response: Trustee Oddy stated that Sumpter Road is being re-paved from Willis to Judd Road. Trustee LaPorte wanted to confirm that he and the attorney will be working on the Fire Chief pay raise.

13. Unfinished Business:

A. Consider approval of the updated Township Manger position description as assigned to Anthony Burdick. REMOVED.

14. New Business:

A. Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to accept the resignation of firefighter James Beaumont with regrets. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
B. Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve to hire Christopher Rose as a full- time police officer, contingent upon him passing the required physical, psychological, and drug test. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
C. Motion by Patterson, supported by Oddy to approve the deputy treasurer and deputy clerk receiving pay increases to coincide with the AFSCME employees retroactively. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

15. Announcements: Vendor Market 9-4pm, April 28 and 29 at the community center.

16. Motion by LaPorte, supported by Rush to adjourn at 7:14 pm. All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by:
Deputy Clerk K. Armatis
Sumpter Township

Esther Hurst, Clerk Date

Timothy Bowman, Supervisor Date

ST0156 - 06 22 23 2.5 x 7.648

Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 23, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Clerk Hurst at 6:53 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Patterson, Trustees: Oddy, Morgan and Rush. Excused: Trustee LaPorte and Supervisor Bowman. Also showing present: Township Manager Burdick, Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Armatis, Finance Director Holtz, Public Safety Director/Police Chief Luke, Fire Chief Brown, Water Superintendent Danci and 5 attendees.

Motion by Oddy, supported by Hurst to have Trustee Rush chair the meeting. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

3. Agenda: Motion by Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve the Agenda.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

4. Public Cmmnent: Two (2) attendees spoke.

5. Minutes: Motion by Oddy, supported by Morgan to approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of May 9, 2023, and accept the Planning Commission meeting minutes of February 9, 2023. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

6. Warrants: Motion by Oddy, supported by Patterson to approve warrants totaling $172,101.56.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

7, 8, 9, 10, 11. Motion by Rush, supported by Patterson to receive and file reports.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

12. Board Response: None.

13. Unfinished Business:

A. Motion by Morgan, supported by Patterson for approval of the updated Township Manger position description as assigned to Anthony Burdick. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

14. New Business:

A. Motion by Oddy, supported by Morgan to approve the Wayne County Parks Grant 2022/2023 expenditures of up to $13,300 for Banotai Park lighting. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
B. Motion by Morgan, supported by Hurst to approve the purchase of six (6) Taser X26P units for the police department at a cost of $8,052 paid out of forfeiture funds. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

15. Announcements: Public thank you to Zwyicki Greenhouse for the donation of flowers for the township hall planters; and Happy Memorial Day to everyone. Thank a veteran.

16. Motion by Morgan, supported by Oddy to adjourn at 7:30 pm. All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by:
Deputy Clerk K. Armatis
Sumpter Township

Esther Hurst, Clerk Date

Timothy Bowman, Supervisor Date

ST0158 - 06 22 23 2.5 x 6.486

Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 28, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bowman at 6:03 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Patterson, Trustees: LaPorte, Morgan, Oddy, and Rush. Also showing present: Township Manager Burdick, Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Armatis, Finance Director Holtz, Public Safety Director/Police Chief Luke, Fire Chief Brown, Water Superintendent Danci and 6 attendees.

3. Agenda: Motion by Rush, supported by Bowman to approve the Agenda with the following addition:
Add Item I. Consider approval of amendments to ordinance Chapter 1 Sec 1-9, Chapter 6-222 adding Sec F Chapter 13-12 and Chapter 1 adding 1-10.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment: Two (2) attendees spoke.

5. Minutes: Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of March 14, 2023. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

6. Warrants: Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to approve warrants totaling $925,242.75. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

7. Parks and Recreation report: Trustee Rush reported assembling Egg Hunt baskets. Motion by LaPorte, supported by Oddy to approve Parks and Recreation report. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

8-11. Reports. Motion by Patterson, supported by LaPorte to receive and file all reports. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

12. Board Response: Trustee Morgan publicly apologized to Trustee Rush for his misunderstanding Morgan's comments regarding Wayne County grading the roads. Rush stated he was honored to attend the Vietnam Veterans' ceremony on March 24, 2023. Trustee Oddy thanked all the veterans in attendance for their service.

14. New Business:

A. Motion by Hurst, supported by LaPorte to approve the 4th quarter budget amendments. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
B. Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to approve the purchase agreement for the sale of parcel #81-102-99-0006-000, Martinsville Road. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
C. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to approve the annual Par Plan insurance with Burnham and Flower Agency effective 04/01/2023 through 03/31/2024 in the amount of $130,820.88. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
D. Motion by LaPorte, supported by Patterson to approve the Axon Enterprise 75- month services quote and agreement in the amount of $99,993.60. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
E. Motion by Oddy, supported by Patterson to reinvest the water/sewer CD maturing on April 6, 2023, with Flagstar Bank. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
F. Motion by Oddy, supported by Patterson to approve the contract with Bureau Veritas for the township facilities assessments in the amount of $25,350.00. Roll call vote: Yes: Bowman, Hurst, Patterson, LaPorte, Oddy, and Rush. Nay: Morgan. Motion carried.
G. Motion by Oddy, supported by Bowman to adjust each board member's compensation by 5% effective April 3, 2023. Roll call vote: Yes: Bowman, Hurst, Patterson, Oddy, and Rush. Nay: LaPorte and Morgan. Motion carried.
H. Motion by Oddy, supported by Patterson to approve the 2023/2024 budget. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
I. Motion by LaPorte, supported by Rush to approve amendments to ordinance Chapter 1, section 1-9, Chapter 6-222 adding section F. Chapter 13-12, Chapter 1 adding 1-10. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

15. Announcements: None.

16. Motion by Rush, supported by Patterson to adjourn at 6:38 pm. All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by:
Deputy Clerk K. Armatis
Sumpter Township

Esther Hurst, Clerk Date

Timothy Bowman, Supervisor Date

ST0154 - 06 22 23 2.5 x 8.08

NORTHVILLE

Construction set to begin at Unity skateboard park

Unity Skatepark in Northville Township is officially rolling following a groundbreaking ceremony for the 10,000-square-foot amenity last week.

Northville Township Supervisor Mark J. Abbo and resident Gabriella Duhn performed the ceremonial groundbreaking as leaders from throughout the community looked on. Preparation at the skatepark site work was scheduled to begin this week.

The project is a culmination of a two-year effort to provide a safe space for the community to embrace wheeled sports. Township resident Dominic Duhn died after being struck by a vehicle while riding his skateboard on Sheldon Road in September 2020.

His brother, Enzo, his best friend, Jack Tsalis, and his parents envisioned the skatepark as a way to bring something positive out of his tragic death. Their idea captivated hundreds of people who contributed funding to get the project launched and built through the Dominic Duhn Foundation, Inc.

"This is an exciting day for Northville Township as we take this ceremonial first step toward building an amenity that will serve this community for decades," Abbo said.

The skatepark will have a pump track, rails, a bowl, ledges, pads and embankments. Community members played a key role in selecting those course elements, as park designer California-based Spohn Ranch, Inc. sought out their input via meetings and surveys in early 2023.

> *I just know that Dominic is smiling down on us.*

"This has been a grassroots project from the beginning, from the fundraising to the design input," Abbo said. "It truly is a project for the community built by the community.

Besides the design, Spohn Ranch is handling the construction. The company expects to complete the skate park in October.

The Dominic Duhn Foundation continues to raise money for the $655,500 project. Northville Township has committed the land and $150,000 to the new park along with the $83,327 the township receives from the Wayne County Parks millage allocation. The City of Northville has committed $8,123 from their Wayne County Parks millage allocation. More than $360,000 was raised through various supporters and fundraisers hosted by the Duhn family and their 501(c)(3) foundation.

"Our family is excited to see this project begin as we are fully appreciative of so many people helping us get to this point with their generous donations," said Gabriella Duhn, champion of the project.

"I just know that Dominic is smiling down on us knowing that this skatepark will serve as a place for all to come together in unity to have a good time with a lot of laughter just like he lived his life."

The park will include a memorial to honor Duhn as well.

"We know many of our residents have a passion for skateboarding," said Northville Parks and Recreation Director Debra Bilbrey-Honsowetz. "This is a recreation gem and we hope by providing this space, we introduce more people to the wheeled sports community. It's a great way to spend time outdoors and enjoy Northville Township to its fullest."

City tree replacement program is under way

Several residents in Northville have some new neighbors that require special attention.

The city is replacing or replanting 51 trees in the community as part of the effort to retain the status as a Tree City. That designation requires diligent maintenance and care of municipal trees, including replacement and a variety of plants.

Last week, DPW staff members began to remove and replenish dead trees as new ones were installed. Staff members are planting various new trees along city rights of way, including species like fast-growing tulip trees to fall-color-favorite maples and even some lesser known London planes, swamp white oaks, and the common huckleberry.

There is already a new tree in front of the Art House and three more on Cady Street that will provide shade on the north side of the Northville Post Office, city officials said.

This year, $18,000 is being spent to purchase new trees for the city from Marine City Nursery. In addition to planting new trees and removing dead trees, maintaining the tree canopy requires tree trimming and periodic treatment to contain various tree diseases, officials said.

Many of the replacement trees are in locations recommended by the non-profit, citizen-led Tree Champions group. These trees are in areas that fill open space when the right-of-way is too narrow to support a new plant that will grow into a huge tree in the decades ahead, officials said.

DPW Director Mike Domine noted, "The city has plenty of maples so we're planting other varieties. In some cases, we're matching maple trees because they are already on the street."

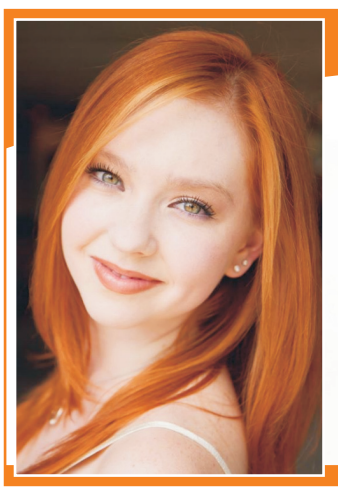
Officials asked residents with new trees planted near their home to ensure that the new plantings receive about 5 gallons of water every week.

Irrigation systems typically don't provide enough water for a new tree, specialists said. In Northville, the nearby homeowner is responsible for watering the tree year-round. Keeping the trees supplied with water is integral to their establishment and growth, horticulturists explained. "It's very important that new trees get the proper care during the first year after being planted, especially as we head into a hot summer when trees may need even more water," officials said in a prepared statement

For more information, contact the Northville DPW at (248) 449-9930 during business hours.

Shout out

Northville Township officials recently recognized the members of the township Department of Public Works for their exceptional performance. During National Public Works Week last month, the township thanked the department staff and leaders for their continued efforts to improve life for residents.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trebellav@gmail.com

Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111
Minutes

Meeting was called to order by Trustee Oddy at 7:08 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Patterson, Trustees: LaPorte, Rush, Oddy and Morgan. Supervisor Bowman excused. Also showing present: Finance Director Holtz, Township Manager Burdick, Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Armatis, Public Safety Director/ Police Chief Luke, Fire Chief Brown, DPW Director Danci, and 19 attendees.

Motion by LaPorte, supported by Rush to have Trustee Oddy chair the meeting. All in favor. Motion carried.

Items F.G. and H were moved up and voted on. The Oath of Office was given by Clerk Hurst to Officer Devos and Officer Salajan for the rank of Sergeant.

3. Agenda: Motion by LaPorte, supported by Morgan to approve the agenda with the following amendments:
Amend: Table item A and add item J.
Roll Call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment/Open Floor: One (1) attendee spoke.

5. Minutes: Motion by Rush, supported by Morgan to approve/ accept the Public Hearing Meeting Minutes of February 28, 2023; Regular Board Meeting minutes of February 28, 2023; and Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting Minutes of October 27, 2022. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

6. Warrants: Motion by LaPorte, supported by Rush to approve warrants totaling
$1,103,274.44. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

7,8,9,10,11 Motion by Patterson, supported by LaPorte to receive and file all reports. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

12. Board Response: Trustee Rush discussed roads and his communication with Wayne County. Trustee LaPorte stated the County should come to a meeting and address the citizen's concerns. Residents should call the road commission and then call the supervisor's office and give them the ticket number so that the office can keep track. Trustee Morgan agreed with LaPorte and added that if it were election time, they would all be out here. Should call the news.

New Business:

A. TABLED. Consider the adoption of the 2023/2024 budget as presented.
B. Motion by Patterson, supported by LaPorte to identify and appoint the Focus Group(s) to review and provide input and options for all proposed township recreation, development, and facility considerations, with the recommendation of who sits on the group by the Township Manager. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
C. Motion by LaPorte, supported by Rush to direct the contracted internal auditor and accountant to review the water and sewer rates and the annual Carleton Farms Landfill volumes. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
D. Motion by Rush, supported by LaPorte to approve the Sumpter Township employee confidentiality agreement. Roll call vote: Yes: Oddy, Hurst, Patterson, Laporte, and Rush. Nay: Morgan. Motion carried.
E. Motion by Patterson, supported by LaPorte to accept the proposal submitted by Bureau Veritas to provide a township facilities assessment and space utilization report. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
F. Motion by Rush, supported by LaPorte to accept the retirement of Sergeant James Cayce with the final active-duty date of 2/28/23, with the employment separation date on or about 4/21/2023 with regrets. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
G. Motion by Morgan, supported by LaPorte to promote patrol officer Bart Devos to the rank of Sergeant effective March 15, 2023, at the rate of $39.49 per hour. Roll call vote: Yes: Allinfavor. Nay: None. Motioncarried.
H. Motion by Rush, supported by LaPorte to promote patrol officer George Salajan to the rank of Sergeant effective March 15, 2023, at the rate of $39.49 per hour. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
I. Motion by Patterson, supported by Rush to counter the offer to purchase for parcel #81-102-00-0006-000, Martinsville Road, 69.36 acres; accept the price of
$270,000.00, buyer Laing to remove contingencies, pay for his own survey and 60 days due diligence; with the Township attorney to draw up the agreement. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
J. Motion by LaPorte, supported by Rush to accept the retirement of Detective/Lieutenant John Toth with the final active-duty date of 3/15/2023, with the employment separation date on or about 4/10/2023, with regrets. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

13. Announcements: Many accolades were given to the retiring officers and congratulations were given to the promoted officers, by Attorney Young and Public Safety Director/Police Chief Luke.

14. Motion by Rush, supported by LaPorte to adjourn at 7:47 p.m. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by:
Deputy Clerk K. Armatis
Sumpter Township

Esther Hurst, Clerk _____ Date _____

Timothy Bowman, Supervisor _____ Date _____

ST0154 - 06 22 23 2.5 x 9.099

Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bowman at 7:19 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Trustees: LaPorte, Morgan, Oddy, and Rush. Treasurer Patterson excused. Also showing present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Armatis, Finance Director Holtz, Public Safety Director/Police Chief Luke, Fire Chief Brown, Township Manager Burdick, Water Director Danci and 7 attendees.

3. Agenda: Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to approve the Agenda with the following addition:
Add item G. Consider approval for Ashley Harris to be interim deputy treasurer from 12:00 pm through 5:00 pm, February 28, 2023; and to be compensated at the deputy pay for 5 hours.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment: Three (1) attendee spoke.

5. Minutes: Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 14, 2023 and accept the planning commission minutes of November 10, 2022. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

6. Warrants: Motion by LaPorte, supported by Morgan to approve warrants totaling $2,732,937.02. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

7-11. Reports. Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to receive and file all reports.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

12. Board Response: Trustee LaPorte thanked the fire and police departments for their efforts during the recent ice storm.

14. New Business:

A. Motion by Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve the recommendation of the Planning Commission for re-zoning parcel #81-013-99-0026-000 (45476 Harris Road) from R-2 to C-1.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

B. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to approve Deputy Treasurer Campbell to attend the MMTA basic institute program from April 23rd-April 28th, with a cost not to exceed $1,332.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

C. Motion by Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve to offer all eligible employees the MedMutual Voluntary & Dependent Life program effective March 2023 at no cost to Sumpter Township.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

D. Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve the fire department grant writing fee of $5,165 to JW2 Fire Consultants for the 2022/ 2023 FEMA AFG cycle. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

E. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to assign the Township Manager, Township Attorney, and Public Safety Director to the blight remediation committee and direct them to address extreme, last-resort blight issues.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

F. Motion by LaPorte, supported by Oddy to direct Township Manager Burdick to obtain the highest bid and proposed use that is being offered for Parcel #81-102- 99-0006-000 Martinsville Road (69.36 acres). And re-instate the listing agreement with Moving The Mitten. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

G. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to approve Ashley Harris to be interim deputy treasurer from 12:00 PM THROUGH 5:00 PM, February 28, 2023; and to be compensated at the deputy pay for 5 hours.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

15. Announcements: None.

Closed Session: Pursuant to MCL 15.268 to consider attorney-client privileged material; regarding pending litigation.

Motion by LaPorte, supported by Rush to go into closed session at 7:41 pm.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Hurst, supported by LaPorte to reconvene the meeting at 7:54 pm.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to have the attorney proceed as directed.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

16. Motion by LaPorte, supported by Oddy to adjourn at 7:55 pm. All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by;
Deputy Clerk K. Arruatis
Sumpter Township

Esther Hurst, Clerk _____ Date _____

Timothy Bowman, Supervisor _____ Date _____

ST0153 - 06 22 23 2.5 x 9.327

WESTLAND

Really cool

Hundreds of Westland residents and visitors enjoyed the Westland Kickoff to Summer Community Summit at Tattan Park last week. The city provided free hot dogs and chips and children had no-cost access to the H2O Splash Pad, a bouncehouse, facepainting, and a showing of the Disney movie, Inside Out. Mayor Michael Londeau provided free popcorn to enjoy with the movie. The event was sponsored by North Brothers Ford, Independent Carpet One Floor & Home, Parkside Dental Team, Michigan Chiropractic Specialists, P.C., Priority Waste, Community Financial Credit Union, Parkside Credit Union and Westland Car Care. The park is located at 1901 North Carlson and is open from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. daily and features new dinosaur themed elements with interactive sounds and lights and an immersive, kid friendly dinosaur experience. The H2O zone features water spray attractions including a helicopter and massive dino dump buckets. Tickets are available at the full-service concession stand. For more information and details, visit: https://secure.rec1.com/MI/westland-mi/catalog

Blues, Brews and BBQ set to return in August

One of the most anticipated events of the summer will return to Westland in August.

Blues, Brews & Barbecue will return Friday, Aug. 4 and Saturday, Aug. 5 with live music, a 200 drone light show, fireworks, top BBQ pitmasters and ice-cold draft brews.

Live entertainment set for Aug. 4 this year will include: 5-6:30 p.m. DownRiver Dan; 7-8:30 p.m. Broken Arrow and from 9-11p.m. Larry McCray.

On Saturday, Aug. 5, performances include: 4-5:30 p.m. The Randy Brock Group; from 6 until 8 p.m. the Kenny Parker Band with special guest Jim McCarty and Johnny Bee and from 8 until 10 p.m. Chris Canas.

The festival will take place at Thomas H. Brown Central City Park and is produced jointly by the City of Westland, the Westland Downtown Development Authority and the Westland Chamber of Commerce. Sponsorship packages for the event are now available starting from $250. To sponsor Blues, Brews and Barbecue, contact the Westland Chamber of Commerce at (734) 326-7222.

"Each year, Blues, Brews and Barbecue gets better than the year before and this year will be no different. From the music and food, to time spent with family, Blues, Brews and Barbecue is always a major event not only for Westland, but the whole metro Detroit area as well," said Mayor Michael P. Londeau.

To subscribe to The Eagle visit
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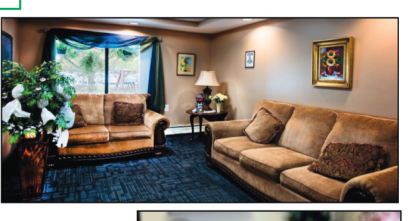

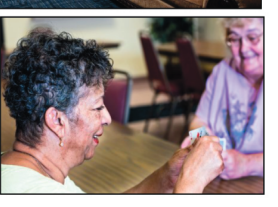

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59. Auctions

On Thursday, June 29th, 2023 at 11:30 am, Great Lakes Towing Impound and Recovery Division located at 42350 Van Born Rd, Belleville, Mi, County of Wayne, will conduct a public auction of Impounded and Abandoned vehicles. The following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder.

2015 Hyundai
KMHEC4A49FA121923
2008 Cadillac
1G6DW67V680103264
2018 Nissan
5N1AZ2MG6JN149753
2012 Chevrolet
1G1ZC5E03CF160324
2009 Chevrolet
2G1WT57K291213130
2017 Jeep
1C4NJRFB5HD155177
2017 Dodge
3C4PDCBG6HT538327
2017 KIA
3KPFK4A77HE032468
2013 Scion
JTKJF5C72D3064398
2018 Nissan
1N4AL3AP0JC139978
2011 Chevrolet
1G1ZC5E18BF182441
2016 Nissan
1N4AL3AP4GN373327
2018 Chevrolet
1G1ZD5ST9JF258704
2011 Ford
1FMCU9DG5BKA01113
2013 Chevrolet
KL8CB6S95DC545548
2018 Cadillac 1GYKN-
DRS9JZ210139
2007 Chevrolet
2G1WT58K479264853
2016 Jeep
1C4NJCEA8GD806841
2015 KIA
5XYKT3A66FG660924
2014 Dodge
1C3CDZAB2EN129541
2015 Chevrolet
1G1PE5SB1F7204410
2009 Chevrolet
2G1WU57M991110415
2017 Honda
19XFC2F7XHE003816
2013 Ford
2FMDK4JC5DBA05139
2015 Hyundai
KMHD35LH1FU242557
2010 Hyundai
KM8JUCAC6AU056646

The above vehicles are impounded through the City of Dearborn Police Department. All paperwork must be picked up from the City of Dearborn Police Department within 48 hours of the sale.

2010 Chevrolet
2CNALDEW7A6297143
2011 Dodge
2B3CL5CT1BH508453
2016 Dodge
1C4RDJEG0GC449551
2013 Chrysler
1C3CCBBB7DN546659

The above vehicles are impounded through the Redford Township Police Department. All paperwork must be picked up from the Redford Township Police Department within 48 hours of the sale.

2012 Chevrolet
1G1PG5SCXC7221253
2016 Toyota
4T1BF1FK5GU591835

The above vehicles are impounded through the City of Westland Police Department. All paperwork must be picked up from the City of Westland Police Department within 48 hours of the sale.

All Vehicles are sold in "as is condition". Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction. This is a cash only sale and all vehicles must be paid in full at the conclusion of the auction.

The Following Cars Have Been Deemed Abandoned By The Inkster Police Dept.

And Will Be Sold At Public Auction At Holt & Son Auto Wrecking LLC at 27350 Princeton St Inkster, MI 48141 On The Day Of July 13, 2023 at 10AM

2012 CHRYSLER
1C3CCBBB8CN139366
2011 FORD
1FAHP3FN8BW134537
2005 TOYOTA
JTDKB20U153117416 PRI
2002 FORD
1FTRW08L02KA83585
1981 LINCOLN
1LNBP6FG4Y684059
2018 DODGE
3C4PDCEGXJT425997
2010 CADILLAC
1G6DA5EG3A0128075
2006 CHEVROLET
2G1WT58K169216774
2004 CHEVROLET
1GNDT13S942158401
2010 CHEVROLET
1G1ZB5EB8A4110239
2010 CHEVROLET
3GNBACDV7AS612081

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& BACHAND, P.C.
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74 WEST LONG LAKE ROAD
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INKSTER - ROMULUS - WAYNE

Jury awards Romulus man $9.3 million in lawsuit

Evidence from a police body camera convinced a Wayne County jury to award a Romulus man $9.3 million as compensation for violations of his constitutional rights during his 2018 arrest by a Dearborn police officer.

Luther Gonzales-Hall, now 25, told members of the jury in his lawsuit charging a violation of his constitutional rights that he suffered "injuries that will never completely heal even though I did nothing wrong. I just asked for directions." Gonzales Hall said he continues to suffer nightmares about being arrested and beaten by police. Attorney Azzam Elder represented Gonzales-Hall in his lawsuit filed against the City of Dearborn, the Dearborn Police Department and several police officers. In addition to the violation of his constitutional rights, the lawsuit charged false imprisonment, arrest, battery - and the wrongful charging of a crime.

Body camera footage from the arrest in 2018 was shown to the jury members during the seven-day trial. Gonzales-Hall, who said he got lost while riding his bike home from visiting a friend, is shown asking the police officer for directions. Following the officer's response, Gonzales-Hall entered a nearby White Castle restaurant and again asked for directions to ensure, he told the jury, that the instructions from the officer were correct.

> *"The only time a citizen has a real voice is when there's a video camera, and that's what's scary.*

The officer's body camera footage shows an almost immediate confrontation between the officer who enters the restaurant and demands to know what Gonzales-Hall is doing. When Gonzales-Hall responds he is attempting to clarify the directions the officer provided, the officer tells him to "hold tight." Gonzales-Hall responds "thank you" and then begins to leave from a different restaurant exit. On the tape of the encounter, the officer intercepts Gonzales-Hall in the parking lot and a violent physical confrontation ensues during which Gonzales-Hall is heard repeatedly asking the officer what he did wrong and apologizing. "I was just asking for directions, bro," Gonzales-Hall is heard shouting. As the physical encounter continues, Gonzales-Hall is heard repeatedly saying "you're choking me."

According to his attorney, Gonzales-Hall suffered severe injuries, including six fractures in his foot which resulted in a permanent limp. His injuries have required several surgeries and fusions, Elder said. The charges made against Gonzales-Hall during the arrest were subsequently dismissed as without probable cause, according to Elder. The attorney said the evidence provided by the video of the encounter demonstrated the reality of the arrest to the jury.

"The only time a citizen has a real voice is when there's a video camera, and that's what's scary," Elder said. "(The body-cam) protects good police officers and also protects the citizen's rights."

Rocky Horror Society plans special showings

Members of the Michigan Rocky Horror Preservation Society based in Wayne have been invited to perform at two of the oldest, largest and most iconic theaters in the state.

Both the special presentations scheduled for October will feature celebrity guests from the original cast of the Rocky Horror Picture Show movie, according to a prepared statement from a group spokesperson.

The group will perform Oct. 12 at the Fisher Theatre in Detroit along with special guest Barry Bostwick, who played Brad Majors. More information about the event is available at https://www.broadwayindetroit.com/.../the-rocky-horror.

The Wayne group will perform again on Oct. 14 at the Capitol Theatre in Flint along with special guest Patricia Quinn, who played Magenta. More information about that performance is available at https://the-fim.org/event/rocky-horror-picture-show/

Members of the group will perform Oct. 21 and again Oct. 28 at the State Wayne Theatre on the final two Saturdays of the month. Ticket information for those shows is available at https://phx.movie/RHPS

The group will continue to perform at the State Wayne Theatre on the second and fourth Saturday of every month leading to the special October events. The State Wayne Theatre is located on Michigan Avenue West.

Tickets and information are available at the links listed above.

On a roll

Members of the Wayne Memorial High School Bowling Team were officially recognized and honored with a plaque during a meeting of the Wayne City Council last week. The team won the 2023 Michigan High School Athletic Association State Bowling Championship earlier this month. Mayor John P. Rhaesa presented the team with an official plaque congratulating the young bowlers on their achievement and championship performance. Members of the team include: Elliot Hill; Jeremiah Hodge; Davin Raisanen; Santray Trottier; Donovan Uselman; Kyle Webster and Mark-Vincent Wells. The team is coached by Christine Day and assistant coach Andrea Santiago while Stephanie Grajek is the team athletic trainer.

New ethic intimidation law heads to state legislators

A new bill making the rounds in Lansing aims to strengthen the state ethnic intimidation law, which some prosecutors have deemed too weak to be effective. Focus: HOPE, along with grassroots partner, the Ethnic Intimidation Law Amendment Work Group, has led the fight to give teeth to the law and hosted a "Community Conversation" regarding the impact of the proposed legislation at Focus: HOPE headquarters.

"As a longstanding organization dedicated to racial healing, it's bittersweet to still need the law changed to keep diverse populations from being targeted, harassed, and victimized," said Portia L. Roberson, Focus: HOPE CEO. "HB 4474 not only makes it clear that such vile behavior is illegal in Michigan, but also makes it easier to hold those accountable who use hate as a weapon."

HB 4474 is part of a legislative package (HB 4474-4477) that would update sentencing guidelines related to criminal acts of hate against persons and buildings. The bills would make it easier to prosecute individuals who target others for their ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, or disability and prohibit the defacement, destruction, and vandalism of institutions such as churches or nonprofits. The reform marks the first time the state Ethnic Intimidation Law has been updated in 35 years.

Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 28, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111
Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Bowman at 7:19 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Trustees: LaPorte, Morgan, Oddy, and Rush. Treasurer Patterson excused. Also showing present: Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Armatis, Finance Director Holtz, Public Safety Director/Police Chief Luke, Fire Chief Brown, Township Manager Burdick, Water Director Danci and 7 attendees.

3. Agenda: Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to approve the Agenda with the following addition:
Add item G. Consider approval for Ashley Harris to be interim deputy treasurer from 12:00 pm through 5:00 pm, February 28, 2023; and to be compensated at the deputy pay for 5 hours.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment: Three (1) attendee spoke.

5. Minutes: Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to approve Regular Board Meeting Minutes of February 14, 2023 and accept the planning commission minutes of November 10, 2022. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

6. Warrants: Motion by LaPorte, supported by Morgan to approve warrants totaling $2,732,937.02. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

7-11. Reports. Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to receive and file all reports.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

12. Board Response: Trustee LaPorte thanked the fire and police departments for their efforts during the recent ice storm.

14. New Business:

A. Motion by Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve the recommendation of the Planning Commission for re-zoning parcel #81-013-99-0026-000 (45476 Harris Road) from R-2 to C-1.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

B. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to approve Deputy Treasurer Campbell to attend the MMTA basic institute program from April 23rd-April 28th, with a cost not to exceed $1,332.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

C. Motion by Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve to offer all eligible employees the MedMutual Voluntary & Dependent Life program effective March 2023 at no cost to Sumpter Township.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

D. Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve the fire department grant writing fee of $5,165 to JW2 Fire Consultants for the 2022/ 2023 FEMA AFG cycle. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

E. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to assign the Township Manager, Township Attorney, and Public Safety Director to the blight remediation committee and direct them to address extreme, last-resort blight issues.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

F. Motion by LaPorte, supported by Oddy to direct Township Manager Burdick to obtain the highest bid and proposed use that is being offered for Parcel #81-102- 99-0006-000 Martinsville Road (69.36 acres). And re-instate the listing agreement with Moving The Mitten. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

G. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to approve Ashley Harris to be interim deputy treasurer from 12:00 PM THROUGH 5:00 PM, February 28, 2023; and to be compensated at the deputy pay for 5 hours.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

15. Announcements: None.

Closed Session: Pursuant to MCL 15.268 to consider attorney-client privileged material; regarding pending litigation.

Motion by LaPorte, supported by Rush to go into closed session at 7:41 pm.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Hurst, supported by LaPorte to reconvene the meeting at 7:54 pm.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

Motion by Oddy, supported by Rush to have the attorney proceed as directed.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

16. Motion by LaPorte, supported by Oddy to adjourn at 7:55 pm. All in favor. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by;
Deputy Clerk K. Arruatis
Sumpter Township

Esther Hurst, Clerk _____ Date _____

Timothy Bowman, Supervisor _____ Date _____

ST0153 - 06 22 23 2.5 x 9.327

Sumpter Township Regular Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 6:00 p.m.
23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111
Minutes

The meeting called to order by Supervisor T. Bowman at 6:29 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call: Supervisor Bowman, Clerk Hurst, Treasurer Patterson, Trustees: Morgan, Oddy, LaPorte, and Rush. Also showing present: Township Manager Burdick, Attorney Young, Deputy Clerk Armatis, Public Safety Director/Police Chief Luke, Fire Chief Brown, Finance Director Holtz, Water Superintendent Danci, and 3 attendees.

3. Agenda: Motion by Oddy, supported by Morgan to approve the Agenda with the following changes:
Remove Items A, Band E. Change date to June 1, 2023, in Item C and correct parcel number in Item D (eliminate 114).
Roll Call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

4. Public Comment/Open Floor: One (1) attendee spoke.

5. Minutes:
A. Motion by Oddy, supported by Patterson to approve the regular board meeting minutes of April 25, 2023.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

6. Warrants:
A. Motion by Rush, supported by Oddy to approve warrants totaling $110,460.82.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

7. Supervisor's report: Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to receive and file the Supervisor's report.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

8. Attorney's Report: Attorney Young reported on sand/ gravel mining legislation being passed, that the local municipalities will have NO say so on any part of thls. Motion by LaPorte supported by Oddy to accept the attorney's report.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

9. Police Report: Chief Luke reported the increase in runs for both police and fire and his desire to advertise for a police officer. Also, the work program from the 34th District Court is starting back up. Motion by Patterson, supported by Oddy to accept the police report. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

10. Building Report: Motion by Oddy, supported by Patterson to receive and file the building report.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

11. Fire Report: Motion by Rush, supported by Patterson to accept the fire report. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

12. Board Response: Trustee LaPorte notified everyone of a training exercise being held at Bessie Hoffman school this week.

13. New Business:

A Consider approval to contract with Lawrence M. Clarke, Inc. for $3,750.00 to line repair areas at the Sumpter/Willis pump station. REMOVED.
B. Consider approval to adopt recommended changes to the water/sewer shut-off and payment plan policies. REMOVED.
C. Motion by Morgan, supported by Patterson to extend the seasonal part-time DPW position to June 1, 2023. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.
D. Motion by Hurst, supported by Oddy to approve a cash offer for Willow Road, two acres, Parcel #81-99-0014-712 in the amount of $20,000. Roll call vote: Yes: None. Nay: Bowman, Patterson, Hurst, Oddy, LaPorte, Morgan and Rush. Motion failed.
E. Consider approval to continue the listing relationship with Moving the Mitten under the original listing terms (expired December 2022) for the remaining properties, as attached. REMOVED.
F. Motion by Oddy, supported by LaPorte to adopt a Proclamation designating May 15, as Peace Officers Memorial Day for Sumpter Township. Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

15. Announcements: Trustee Morgan wished all the moms a Happy Mother's Day.

16. Motion by Rush, supported by Patterson to go into closed session at 7:28 pm to consider attorney-client privileged material exempt from discussion or disclosure by state or federal law referencing current MAPP agreement status, per MCL 15.268c.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

17. Motion by Rush, supported by Morgan to come back in session at 8:10 pm.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

18. Motion by Morgan, supported by Oddy to approve Chief Luke to advertise for a police officer.
Roll call vote: Yes: All in favor. Nay: None. Motion carried.

19. Motion by Rush, supported by Morgan to adjourn at 8:11 pm. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by:
Deputy Clerk K. Armatis
Sumpter Township

Esther Hurst, Clerk _____ Date _____

Timothy Bowman, Supervisor _____ Date _____

ST0157 - 06 22 23 2.5 x 9.58

Canton - Plymouth

District celebrates 2023 graduates

For more than 1,200 high school seniors at Plymouth-Canton Community Schools, graduation will be a shining moment, the culmination of hard work and dedication for many. Among those proud graduates are 85 seniors at Starkweather Academy, the alternative high school in the district, whose graduation on June 8 is proof they persevered and overcame challenges, officials said.

Kevin Lane has been the principal at Starkweather for 17 years and he says watching the students participate in the graduation ceremony at the Salem High School auditorium was a deeply joyful moment.

"The ceremony itself is very personal, with each student having a personally written message read about their goals and experiences and 'thank yous,'" Lane said. "Each Starkweather student has had significant barriers to overcome - that is why they are with us, and the joy of this accomplishment is so profoundly emotional. We have had many who are the first to graduate in their family or the first to be on a strong career path toward a trade or college."

As a high school designed for students with different learning abilities and needs, Starkweather centers programs and services around individual students' schedules and strengths. Starkweather classes are small, with a low student-to-teacher and -staff ratio that Lane says helps build relationships, support and trust with students.

Starkweather also offers a daily academic support class to give students time during the school day to catch up or complete makeup work, take part in class work outside of the school or accelerate credits. That Starkweather flexibility is inspiring students to learn and thrive, Lane said.

"I love the environment at Starkweather - there is an emphasis on hands-on learning and my teachers are great," said Rachel Deradourian, who will attend Schoolcraft College in the fall.

"My favorite thing about Starkweather is that our schedule allows me to better focus on three classes a day and the later start time is better for high school students - and I love my teachers," said Kamari Pearson, who will study criminal justice at Adrian College starting in the fall and play on the Bulldogs football team. Pearson wants to work in law enforcement.

The academy prepares students for life after Starkweather with a required senior seminar focusing on students' post-secondary options - a program that helps provide a sense of laser-like direction for students.

Emily Bushey graduates with almost a full semester of college credits because of dual enrollment at Schoolcraft.

"The opportunities and connections at Starkweather are by far my favorite thing about the school," she said. "I am grateful for the scholarship that I won from the Plymouth Rotary Club and will be attending Schoolcraft as a full-time student in the fall to continue studying to become an educator. My goal is to maybe one day return to Starkweather as a teacher," Bushey said.

For 2023 graduates, Starkweather provided students with a sense of belonging, many said, along with the hope to pursue their goals.

Graduation ceremonies for Plymouth-Canton Community Schools Starkweather Academy students took place June 8 and for Canton, Salem and Plymouth high schools on June 11.

"I love that my Starkweather teachers and staff are always supportive and genuinely care about me," said Ashley Tanana, who will study for a degree in diagnostic medicine sonography-at Grand Valley State University. "Starkweather gave me a home."

Tanana, Bushey, Pearson and Deradourian are among the 990-plus Plymouth Canton Community Schools graduates of 2023 who will go to a two-year or four-year college. More than 3 percent of 2023 graduates are joining the skilled trades professions and technical schools. The remaining graduates plan to enlist in the military or take a year off before deciding their next steps.

Superintendent of Schools Dr. Monica Merritt urged the new graduates to continue to dream, create and innovate, telling them, "These words embody the essence of what it means to be a graduate of Plymouth-Canton Community Schools. Throughout your time here, you have been encouraged to think outside the box, challenge the status quo, and pursue your passions with unwavering determination."

At Starkweather, Lane said his students can pursue their passions, stay focused and feel accepted because of the small size and student-centered learning.

"These are great kids and there is no typical student," Lane said. "Our students tend to be more accepting of others because they come to us as having a lack of success somewhere either academically or socially. We focus all our resources on supporting each and every student's success by getting to know and supporting students' individual needs and strengths to prepare them for the future."

Merritt concurred, saying: "Graduates of Starkweather Academy worked hard all year and deserve credit for their amazing accomplishments. I'm excited to watch each of them continue on the path to success in their life's journey."

District seniors from the other three high schools - Salem, Canton and Plymouth - graduated June 11, with ceremonies on the campus of Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti.

Plymouth Canton Community Schools Board of Education member Patti McCoin said: "Plymouth-Canton Community Schools graduates of 2023 continue a tradition of success in the classroom and beyond. With our focus on providing a world class education for every student, our graduates are prepared and ready to thrive."

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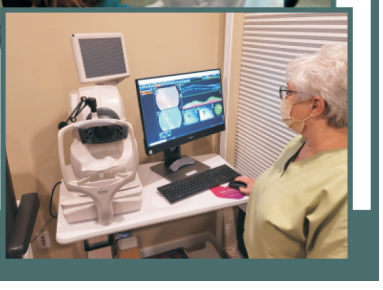

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